

**Sonny Kim Service 6-26-15**

**City Manager Black**

Good Morning.

It is with a heavy heart and yet an honor to be standing before you today, to share in the celebration of the life of Sonny Kim, a hero.

The Kim family and the Police Department have experienced a sudden and tragic loss. Our hearts go out to you.

On behalf of the entire City of Cincinnati, we stand ready to help and support you now and in the future.

(Pause)

This past week has been incredibly difficult for all of us.

None of us in City service have been hit harder than Officer Kim's family, and brothers and sisters within the Police Department.

In the coming weeks and months, on behalf of our entire City family, we are here with you, and for you.

(Pause)

I did not have the honor of knowing Sonny Kim but, like so many in the last week I have come to learn about him, and what he valued and what he stood for.

I learned that in addition to being a loving and caring father and husband, he was a model Police Officer and a model citizen.... a true hero.

He dedicated himself to serving and protecting the city of Cincinnati for 27 years.

He did not just serve -- he served with distinction!!!

It must be noted that like his fellow officers, Officer Kim self selected himself for this career. This demonstrates a selflessness and a willingness to sacrifice one's self for one's fellow man.

**Peter Chapter 4, verse 10 reads “*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others.*”**

Officer Kim did just that.

He and all other members of the Department are extraordinary individuals with extraordinary courage.

They have the conviction to do what many of us would not be willing to do and that is to always be ready to make the ultimate sacrifice.

I can't think of another sacrifice so worthy of our honor.

Today, we celebrate and show our gratitude for Officer Kim, his profession and his immense sacrifice.

And to Jessica and the rest of the Kim family, we thank you and we are here for you. Please (pause), know that we are truly here for you.

As you can see by looking around this arena, you are not alone.

As we try, in our own way, to make sense of this sudden loss, let us remember that it is through our living that our impact will be realized in our death.

Adversity makes us stronger. Adversity is an opportunity for growth. The loss of Officer Kim will make the Department and all of us stronger. As a result, we will grow.

Please, let's let Sonny Kim's example of living affect our living in a way that changes not only our lives but those around us.

God bless Sonny Kim and the Kim family.